

Strengthening Agricultural Extension Activities through Partnership with HESCO at Foothills of Himalaya

Under the IARI-Voluntary Organisations Collaborative Programme of IARI, Scientists from IARI organised Scientist-Farmer interface at Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation (HESCO), Dehradun- A voluntary organization founded by renowned Botanist, Scientist, Social Worker and Founder of HESCO, **Dr. Anil P. Joshi**.

Along with the scientific team of HESCO, scientist of IARI also identified and addressed the constraints which farmers are facing at Dehradun and Foot-Hills of Shivalik Range as Insect and pest infestation (termites, ants, white grub and beetles, white flies, snails), Wild life menace (Blue bull, monkey and wild bores), Unavailability of cold storage for vegetables and fruits, Unavailability of women friendly tools and technologies and Malnutrition among women and children (especially PEM, Iron deficiency).



Interaction meets with HESCO scientists and volunteers

The Nodal officers under IARI-Voluntary Organisations Collaborative Programme of IARI (Dr. Pratibha Joshi, Scientist CATAT and Dr. Girijesh Mahra Scientist Ag. Extension) also monitored nursery paddy variety 1509, 2511 which will be transplanted in 2nd week of July.

Scientific team provided High Yielding vegetable seed kit of IARI to progressive farmers and demonstrated BGA and liquid fertilizers applications. During interaction meet farmers were briefed about latest IARI technologies related to crop production, ergonomically sound gender friendly technologies, and lauded on health and nutritional issues of farm families.



Field visit and interaction with farmers (paddy variety Pusa Basmati 1509)



Distribution of ICAR-IARI vegetable seed kit to farmers associated with HESCO



Distribution of ICAR-IARI vegetable seed kit, BGA and liquid fertilizer to farmers associated with HESCO



Eco friendly biogas unit developed by HESCO in participation with farmers

HESCO scientist's also demonstrated participatory technologies (eco friendly biogas unit, windmill *Gharat*, apiculture unit, fruit processing unit, conservation technologies, climate resilient technologies) developed by locally available resources in association with volunteers and farmers.